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2 November 1959

Executive Registry

11-8936

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Briefing of Major General Alva R. Fitch

1. Major General Alva R. Fitch, newly appointed Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, will be briefed on CIA activities beginning at 0900 hours on Thursday, 5 November, in the Director's Conference Room, Administration Building. He will be accompanied by Colonel Charles J. Denholm, Chief/Collection Division/ACSI.

2. Program:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Time</u>	
CIA Organization		0900-1015	25X1
Break		1015-1030	
TSS Activities		1030-1100	25X1
CI Activities		1100-1130	
PP Activities		1130-1200	
FI Activities and Coordination of Clandestine Collection		1200-1300	

3. Administrative arrangements will be handled by

OTR Briefing Officer

Attachment:

Biographic sketch

OTR Briefing Officer/

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Distribution:

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Major General Alva R. Fitch

Alva R. Fitch was born in Amherst, Nebraska, September 10, 1907. He was appointed to the United States Military Academy from Nebraska. He was graduated and appointed a second lieutenant in the Field Artillery in June 1930.

After various assignments, he was sent to the Philippine Islands in February 1940, where he commanded Battery A of the 23rd Field Artillery Pack (Philippine Scouts) until the outbreak of World War II. During the siege of the Philippines, he was commanding officer of the 2nd Battalion, 91st Field Artillery (PA), until taken prisoner after the surrender of Bataan by the Japanese in May 1942. He was a prisoner of war on Luzon until December 1944, when he was taken to Japan. He was held in Japan and Korea until September 1945.

From February to July 1946, he was a student in the 27th General Staff Class of the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Upon completion of the course, he remained as an instructor in the Language Section of the College until August 1947. After completing the Strategic Intelligence School, he served, beginning in February 1948, as Army Attache to El Salvador and, finally, to all the Central American countries until June 1950. From July 1950 to February 1951, he attended the Armed Forces Staff College at Norfolk. He was assigned to the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G2, Department of the Army, in March 1951, where he served as Chief, Production Division, until August 1952. In October 1952 he was assigned as Executive, IX Corps Artillery, in Korea and served in this position until his return to the United States at the end of June 1953. He entered the Army War College in August 1953 and, upon graduation in June 1954, was assigned to the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G2, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C., where he served as Executive Officer and as Deputy for Foreign Operations to the Assistant Chief of Staff, G2, until May 1955, when he was assigned as Division Artillery Commander of the 3rd Armored Division at Fort Knox. In July 1957 he was assigned as Chief of MAAG, Belgium-Luxembourg (Belux), Brussels. In October 1959 he was assigned as Army Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence.

Awards: Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Promotions: first lieutenant, September 1935; captain, June 1940; major, January 1942; lieutenant colonel, September 1945; colonel, July 1950; brigadier general, April 1955; major general, February 1958